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ACTION POL INFO CDA DCM ADM KSL0 USIS RA CONS RSO AID/DART -10

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RELEASED IN FULL

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DE RUEFGV #5546/01 2081637

28-JUL-94 TOR: 03:20

ZNR UUUUU ZZB

CHRG: PROG

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DIST: KIG

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO RUEEEC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1786

RUEEMU/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 0154

INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 9034

RUEEWI/AMEMBASSY KINSEASA 0456

RUEAKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 1725

RUEENR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0068

RUEEJP/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0356

RUFEDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 2166

RUEEDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 5492

RUEEPR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 3392

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3033

RUEPBS/USEU BRUSSELS

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 4019

RUEEJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:SO-LIC/USDP:HRA//

RUEEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-4/J-5//

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ETCC//

RUFNBUT/FQ JTF PP NAPLES IT//POLAD//

RUFFAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE//AEAGE-0//

RUEHQAAA/CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AF GE//CC/DO/DOX/RS//

RHDCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N3/N31/N5/N7//

RUSVNOT/COMSOCRUE VAIHINGEN GE

RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ//

RUCPSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA

RUCUAAA/USCINCTRANS SCOTT AFB IL

RUKGNLA/DLA CAMERON STA VA

BT

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AID FOR A/AID AND BER

STATE FOR PRM/AAA AND MGRW02

NAIROBI FOR DART/RWANDA AND REFCOORD

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREF, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, MASS, EAID, AORC, RW, CG UN
SUBJECT: UNHCR REQUESTS SECONDMENT OF USAID REPS FOR
RWANDA EMERGENCY

1. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. SEE PARA 2.

2. ACTION REQUEST. MISSION RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM UN
DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER GERALD WALZER ON 7/27 FOR THE
SECONDMENT OF THREE USAID OFFICERS TO SERVE ON THE UNHCR
REPATRIATION TASK FORCE IN KIGALI. PLEASE ADVISE USG
RESPONSE. TEXT OF UNHCR'S LETTER FOLLOWS IN PARA 3.
END ACTION REQUEST.

3. BEGIN TEXT.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY:
EDWARD W. HOLMES

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84-96-0577, 3/5 3/01-16-5-3

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IN ORDER TO REINFORCE OUR EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE REFUGEES AND OTHERS DISPLACED DURING THE RECENT EMERGENCY IN RWANDA, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A UNHCR EMERGENCY REPATRIATION TASK FORCE, TO BE BASED IN KIGALI. THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE WILL EXAMINE, PROPOSE ACTIONS FOR AND, IF FEASIBLE, FACILITATE THE CONDUCT OF A PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE AND/OR SUPPORT THE RAPID VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF RWANDAN REFUGEES FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES IN A MANNER WHICH IS COORDINATED AND CONSISTENT WITH EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE RETURN OF DISPLACED FAMILIES AS WELL.

THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE'S EFFORTS WILL HAVE A DUAL FOCUS: FIRST, TO MONITOR SPONTANEOUS REPATRIATIONS AND TO RECOMMEND ESSENTIAL SUPPORT; AND SECOND, TO EVENTUALLY PROMOTE AND FACILITATE THE EARLY REPATRIATION AND RETURN OF THE AFFECTED POPULATION. ITS EFFORTS SHALL ADDRESS ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION MEASURES DESIGNED TO CREATE AND ENHANCE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO SUCH RETURN.

FOLLOWING THE VISIT OF USAID ADMINISTRATOR PRIAN ATWOOD TO THE REGION, WE WERE ADVISED OF THE GENEROUS OFFER OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO SECOND A NUMBER OF EXPERTS IN EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT AND OPERATIONS TO REINFORCE OUR EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE AFFECTED POPULATIONS. WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER AND WOULD SPECIFICALLY REQUEST YOUR KIND ASSISTANCE IN SECONDING TO US FOR THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE MR. ROBERT GERSONY, WHO WOULD SERVE AS ITS COORDINATOR, MR. TONY JACKSON AND MS. CYNTHIA GERSONY, FOR A PERIOD OF SERVICE WHICH WOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AND, IN A FIRST PHASE, CONTINUE UNTIL 30 SEPTEMBER 1994, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER EXTENSIONS. UNHCR PLANS TO REINFORCE THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE WITH ADDITIONAL FIELD PERSONNEL.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, DURING THE DISASTER WHICH STRUCK RWANDA, ALMOST ALL OF OUR LOGISTICAL CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY WAS DESTROYED. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE POSSESS THE MOBILITY NECESSARY TO CONDUCT ITS MISSION, WHICH WILL REQUIRE CONTINUOUS

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AND EXTENSIVE FIELD TRAVEL. TO THIS END, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE FROM ITS EXISTING RESOURCES IN THE REGION, OR TO EARMARK FROM CURRENT DONATIONS TO THE EMERGENCY, TWO FULLY-EQUIPPED FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE VEHICLES FOR THE DURATION OF THIS EFFORT. THIS REQUEST HAS A PARTICULAR URGENCY, AS WE WOULD LIKE THE REPATRIATION TASK FORCE TO BE OPERATIONAL AND READY TO PROCEED FROM KIGALI TO THE FIELD AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COMING WEEK.

THE SORT OF RAPID BUT SYSTEMATIC AND THOROUGH FIELD-BASED DATA WHICH THE TEAM WILL PRODUCE, AND THE STRATEGIC PLANNING WHICH WILL BE BASED ON IT, WILL BE INVALUABLE TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE, PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE MOST RAPID POSSIBLE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF RWANDAN REFUGEES AND OTHER AFFECTED POPULATIONS. WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR EARLIEST CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST.

END TEXT.
SPIEGEL

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